

promise, but the measure is not practicable on any terms—Law is the only alternative, & common Law, being cheapest & most expeditious, is doubtless best adapted to our purpose—therefore Dennison, or some other person who was with him when Abednego Hudson was lost, must, if possible, be prevailed on to come here as a Witness, & the sooner the better—pray urge it—the expence must not be regarded & delay may be dangerous—advance her nothing till this is done, nor then but little—Should I be here when Dennison arrives, he will find me at N^o. 21. Colchester Street, Savage [4] Gardens. The House of M^{rs}. Farmer—If not, direct him to enquire at that place for M^r. John Browne, my Attorney—He lives at N^o. 20 Lothbury Street, & will give him immediate dispatch—

I am happy to hear that you expect to be punctual in your payment & hope your expectation will be fully answered—till that is done a further Credit cannot possibly be obtained—your meaning is greatly obscured by the brevity of your style in so much, that I am at a loss to know whether, by saying “you do not want more than £500 worth Goods next fall” you expected me to send them, or not—However, ’tis by no means material, for I could not do it, if you did—Credit is entirely done away—those that could trust, will not—and those that would, cannot—The disputes in Holland, between the prince & people, are now arrived at such a pitch of violence that there seems to be no method of settling then but by the sword—& the drawing of it, by either party, will probably, if not inevitably, engage most of [5] of the powers of Europe in a War—it is thought that the Prince will be supported by England & Prussia—& the people by France & Germany—but no matter how the powers are divided so they do but go to War—A war in Europe will be favorable to America, & for that reason I am anxious to see it—such an Event would probably make a good market for the John (for you know she would make an excellent privateer)—& in that case would it be wrong to sell her? I think not.—William Blount says, in his last letter, that he thinks I might be appointed Consul for the Port of Bristol, & if you think I could be serviceable to you by accepting the appointment I am willing to do so—There is a young Lady at the Hague who is desperately in Love with me & avows her passion—Her fortune is said to be about £6000. Sterling—Her character without blemish, her person handsome, her manners agreeable, her age 22—& were she a native of my own Country I could prefer her to all other women